

# THE ST. JOSEPH OBSERVER.

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## McJIMSEY TRIED TO WORK WITH BOTH FACTIONS

And as a Natural Result He Made a Mistake and Now Neither Wants Him

That Division in the St. Louis Gang Has Smashed All of the Gop Slates

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Nov. 28.—(Special Correspondence.)—Highly elated over information from St. Louis that the powerful "very damp" G. O. P. machine which controls the destiny of the party there, is now helplessly divided against itself on whether United States Senator Selden P. Spencer should be renominated at the primary of next August, many of the Republican aqua pura leaders out in the state have determined to take full advantage of the compromise concession one faction offers in exchange for support by insisting that the nominees for governor, lieutenant-governor, attorney-general and supreme court judges on the next ticket be men with prohibition inclinations, tendencies, habits and activities. In return, for this small political favor, it is stated, by the same authority, the "drys" will then gracefully submit to the renomination of State Auditor George E. Hackmann and other substantial men for state offices, and make no inquiries as to where they stand on prohibition.

The polite suggestion of negro Republicans who announced at the Moberly party pow-wow two weeks ago that they were voicing the sentiment of 60,000 Ethiopian Missouri voters, that their race be honored by nominating a colored man for either lieutenant governor or for state auditor, caused many of their partisan white brothers out in the nooks and corners of the state, when the gloved ultimatum spread that far, to throw up their hands in racial horror and determinedly proclaim in one voice, "Impossible! the ideal, nothing doing!"

The Flat Has Gone Forth  
More information which has reached the state capital from remote portions of Missouri where prohibition Republicans are in overwhelming control, is that the flat has been issued that the next gubernatorial nominee must be either Representative S. P. O'Fallon of Holt county who was Speaker of the last Republican House through the will of the controlling G. O. P. dry majority, or State Senator Howard Gray of Carthage, Jasper county, or Superintendent of Public Schools Samuel A. Baker of Jefferson City, or some other high class party man who is not in any manner affiliated with or exposed by Republican barleycorn disciples.

Those who claim to know assert that the repeated visits of Editor E. E. McJimsey of Springfield to St. Louis, the stronghold of the barleycorn forces of the Republican party, in the last two months, to gain the support of the G. O. P. machine there for his candidacy, and definite news from that wet metropolis that half of the anti-prohibition leaders there had finally agreed to line up for this Ozark newspaperman and deliver the goods to him on primary day, has proven costly to his cause in all rural sections where dry Republicans are in absolute control. Such disappointed dry Republicans are said now to be whooping things up for Speaker O'Fallon. McJimsey was the strongest in the rustic portions of Missouri two months ago after his first pilgrimage to St. Louis when his followers gave out that the wet leaders of that city had turned him down for the reason that so many prohibition Republicans were hot and heavy for him. It was then believed that the St. Louis party shake would see to it that his votes on primary day in that burg would be few and far between. Dry leaders then were determined to recompense that G. O. P. warhorse for his loss of votes in St. Louis by giving him a solid 100,000 from the prairie and hills, glens and dales and bottom lands of Missouri.

Wets "Busted" Mc's Boom  
It was the belief then, it is averred now, that dry Republicans all over Missouri saw in McJimsey a gladiator who could win the nomination through their united effort, and one who would, if elected governor, advance the cause of prohibition. Each day then saw an increase in the number of unsophisticated dry Republican McJimsey boomers. His candidacy quickly became as formidable as the several wise St. Louis G. O. P. leaders,

concluding that the inevitable was ahead, wildly climbed into the bandwagon and clamorously added to what was then entirely a one-sided gubernatorial din. Dry Republicans now contend that overloading the McJimsey elephant with St. Louis ward leaders and heelers known to be as "wet as the Atlantic ocean" convinced them that he was not the candidate they wanted and wholesale desertions of support in the dry counties of Missouri took all the vigor out of the boom where once it was strong.

Unfortunately for the McJimsey candidacy while he and his boosters were busy in St. Louis corraling support, regardless of whether the recruits were wet or dry, the fertile field at Kansas City was entirely forgotten. Meanwhile way up in Trenton, Grundy county, there was another staunch Republican, Arthur M. Hyde, a lawyer who took active part in the 1912 progressive party movement in Missouri, who was also looking upon the G. O. P. gubernatorial nomination with an anxious, covetous feeling. His friends madetures to the Republican leaders of Kansas City and St. Joseph, and, especially, to the bunch who want Walter C. Dickey, the "millionaire mud mixer of the Kaw," nominated to succeed Senator Spencer, with the ultimate result that this powerful faction swung into position for Hyde under the belief that he is the only one of the many candidates for first honors on the state ticket who can bring the wet and dry factions together for the election, if he is nominated.

Hyde Help From St. Louis  
The Hyde boom gained further strength in western Missouri when word came from St. Louis that an element of the G. O. P. machine there still antagonistic to McJimsey had decided to cast their lot with the Grundy county progressive Republican. Overloading the Hyde boom in Kansas City, St. Louis and St. Joseph with too many "moist" politicians, as was the case with the candidacy of McJimsey in St. Louis, brought about an exodus of the soft beverage men who now declare they will not stand for McJimsey or Hyde, but want either O'Fallon, Gray or Baker. It really took the Moberly party pow-wow of two weeks ago to convince dry Republicans that all offers of compromise from the Republican barleycorn forces of Missouri must be looked upon with suspicion, and that to gain anything in this state for the prohibition cause it is necessary to nominate prohibition Republicans, not alone for United States senator, but also for governor, lieutenant-governor, attorney-general and all supreme court judges. Spencer's negative vote in the United States Senate on lifting the wartime ban on liquor has convinced dry Republicans that he is with them on this important issue.

A. T. EDMONSTON.

OFFICER BOYLE IS SOME MARKSMAN

When Claude McKenzie, who says his home is in Topeka, drove a stolen motor car up to the Grand Island bridge Tuesday morning, for the purpose of getting it into Kansas, he found Police Detective Boyle, who took him in charge and started for the station. McKenzie made a break for liberty and Officer Boyle put two bullets into his left leg which brought him to a sudden halt.

FARMERS WILL SELECT MEMBER

The farmers of this section—that is the eighty-six shareholders—who are interested in the defunct Missouri Mutual Crop Insurance Co., now in the hands of a receiver, will meet at the court house Monday forenoon and appoint one of their number to act as their agent, in the wind-up proceedings.

JOHN ALBUS WILL BE BOSS

At a meeting of the automobile dealers of the city held Tuesday, John Albus was chosen as manager of the show, and at once entered upon his duties—in which he will succeed—while he does not hold the trump cards in the political game, he does know how to conduct an auto show.

## WILL ELECT OFFICERS

Democratic Women to Meet Last Night to Perfect Their Organization

Last night the Democratic women of the city were to meet at the court house and complete the work which they so well started last Saturday when they did the preliminary work of the forming of an organization which will do much for the Democracy of this city and county. At that time it was decided to organize in two different ways—as an auxiliary to the men's Democratic organization, and also to organize a club of their own. Mrs. Herbert A. Owen presided at the meeting and L. C. Gabbert, George Akers, John Crawford, and some other good men Democrats helped the women to get properly started.

The organization for the county will consist of a bi-sex body. By this system the men will elect officers for themselves, and the women their own officers, but both groups will work together to a common end. Polls will be taken of the voters, campaign funds will be raised, literature will be distributed, meetings held and speakers provided. All of the various functions of a political campaign will be observed the same as heretofore, except that the women will take an active part in the work.

Mrs. Herbert A. Owen, state committeeman, appointed Mrs. Elliott Spalding, Mrs. D. V. Johnson and Mrs. R. E. Culver to represent the women in drafting a constitution and bylaws; and Lewis C. Gabbert appointed Judge R. E. Culver, Judge Charles H. Mayer and James E. Cox to represent the men on this committee.

The following named were appointed members of the committee to select a headquarters: Mrs. J. I. Roberts, Miss Mary A. Williams, Mrs. Marcella Bailey, George W. Akers, Thomas J. Lysaught and John M. Crawford.

## THE WATER WORKS

A Majority of the Committee Believe It Would Be Well For the City to Own the Plant

That the majority of the members of the citizens committee of 100, appointed by Mayor Whitell to go into the water works purchase question, are favorable to the city acquiring the plant is true, but the reported "unanimous" feeling as reported by an interested newspaper is absolutely untrue. The fact is that the committee was almost equally divided according to reports of members of that body. Those who from financial or business environment are interested in the city purchasing the plant, were for the purchase of course—while those who had no interest in that way were either opposed or indifferent as to the acquisition. To show that this is the correct idea is disclosed by the fact that the committee took no decided action in the premises. After hearing a number of speeches from members of the committee, and listening to the report of City Counselor Stigall, and the Des Moines committee, the committee adjourned.

"We hereby express our confidence in the ability of the city council to handle the water question, and we, as a committee, stand behind the councilmen in every way possible in their efforts to acquire a municipally owned water plant."

## WILL BEATIE FINDS "SOME-THING OUT"

"No matter how much you already know," said Will H. Beattie, vice-president of the John S. Brittain Dry Goods Co., the other evening, "you can always learn something more of course providing you are not absolutely 'dense'." The other day a customer of ours," he continued, "was buying an order of overalls, and asked that they all be of extra length. When we wanted to know why he desired extra long garments he replied, 'you see goods are scarce just now, and high too. The purchaser can cut off the bottom of the leg and he will have all of the goods then that he needs for patches,' he told us."

## HORACE MERRITT APPOINTED JUDGE

Whitell did not daily long about appointing a successor to Police Judge Allee, for as soon as the latter was buried he appointed Horace Merritt to the position, and he served his first day on Thanksgiving morning. Major Whitell had intended to defer the appointment until Friday, but the pressure brought bear on him by the thirty candidates and their armies of friends, was too great, and he terminated the suspense Wednesday night by the appointment of Merritt, who will no doubt fill the position very satisfactorily.

## SWARTZ AND IMEL

These Two St. Joseph Attorneys Are Making Douglas Fairbanks Sit Up and Take Notice

St. Joseph attorneys—of whom there are no better—always make people sit up and take notice. Judge John F. Imel and Edwin M. Swartz, who are St. Joseph products and made their mark here, are now located in Los Angeles, and they are giving the people there to understand that they are from Missouri—and must be shown—and will show. Just now they are giving Douglas Fairbanks, the movie king, a touch of high life, as the following from the Los Angeles Times will show. It says: "A suit for \$100,000 damages was filed against Douglas Fairbanks by Ernest Butterworth yesterday, for injuries the latter declares he received when Mr. Fairbanks staged an impromptu 'stunt' for the benefit of visitors at his moving-picture studio October 1, last. Mr. Butterworth, who is an actor and was employed by the Douglas Fairbanks Pictures Corporation until after he was injured, asserts he received permanent injuries and that his face is disfigured, which will impair his work for the films."

"In the language of the complaint, filed through Attorneys John F. Imel and E. M. Swartz, Mr. Fairbanks is a trained and powerful athlete. While demonstrating his ability as an athlete to his visitors, Mr. Butterworth says, Mr. Fairbanks grabbed the complainant with a strangle-hold, raised him from his feet and threw him over Mr. Fairbanks' head. Mr. Butterworth says his mouth and lips were damaged and he was permanently disfigured and injured."

"Mr. Fairbanks' act, the complainant states, was 'wanton, oppressive and unprovoked, and done by the said defendant for his own glorification and for the plaudits of his auditors and in reckless disregard of plaintiff's rights and feelings.'"

"Mr. Fairbanks stated that he knew nothing about the occurrence, his life being one succession of athletic 'stunts.'"

## DE KALB IS SCORCHED

It Enjoys the Luxury of a \$25,000 Blaze While the Coal Supply Is Short

DeKalb is short on coal, as is all other points in this section, and that may have had something to do with that \$25,000 fire which swept away the Willis-Lucas Lumber yard Wednesday night and destroyed the home of Louis Sampson. The origin of the fire is not known.

A call for assistance sent here took Chief Kane and ten men to the fire, but they could do but little because there was no water.

A freight car loaded with tools burned in the DeKalb yards last week with a loss of \$6,000.

## POLICE BOARD MET AT HOSPITAL

Although the police commissioners have very neat and commodious quarters at the police station, the regular meeting of the board was held in St. Joseph's Hospital Saturday where Commissioner Townsend is lying ill. Police Officer Robert Griffith, who was suspended a month ago, was ordered reinstated Dec. 1. Six appointments were made. Charles Winkler, chauffeur, was promoted to patrolman; J. C. Worrell, former patrolman who left the force to enter the army, was reinstated; O. S. Slett, James P. Pope and James T. Graves were appointed probationary patrolmen, and Ferris J. Williams was appointed a chauffeur.

## WILSON SOCKED IT TO THEM

Because Justice Wilson presided in police court Tuesday, the speedsters came in for a trim. The judge telling them that if he could he would confiscate the machine of every man who went speed dinky. Ten of them paid from \$10 to \$30 each for their experience.

The usual Thanksgiving services were held at the churches—the theaters played to capacity, houses—all nimrods went rabbit hunting—and the Motta Temple Shrine distributed about one hundred baskets of food to needy families—which is about how Thanksgiving was celebrated in St. Joseph Thursday.

The local coal situation is worse today than at any time since the strike began. Cavan Pratt, who has charge of the local distribution, stated yesterday that he had applications from over 300 families who were entirely out of fuel. The coal board wants wood to distribute to needy families.

## FATHER AND SON DEAD

Police Judge James T. Allee and His Son Curtis the Victims of a Gas Stove

No death in St. Joseph for years has caused more genuine sorrow than that of Police Judge James T. Allee, which occurred at 5 o'clock Monday afternoon, following that of his son, Curtis Allee, which occurred at some period between midnight and morning of the same day. Both died as a result of the fatal gas stove, the fumes of one of these "killers" taking both lives.

Judge Allee and his son kept bachelor hall at 712½ Locust street, where they occupied a suite of rooms, since the death of Mrs. Allee some years ago. Among the articles of furniture in their quarters was a gas heater.

Monday morning Judge Allee did not appear to open police court at the appointed hour and Eugene Eagan, police court secretary, was sent to his residence to see why he had not appeared. When Eagan reached there he found Ida Butts, a girl who lived next door told him that Judge Allee had gone up-town some time before, and he returned to the police station and so reported, after which Justice Wilson was sent for and held court.

Capt. Frank Watson, in charge at the station and a lifelong friend of Judge Allee, was not satisfied with the Eagan report, and his uneasiness prompted him to go to the Allee home and make a personal investigation. Arriving at the home and finding the doors locked, he forced the front door and found Curtis Allee dead, Judge Allee just alive, and the flames pouring from a gas heater, which with all of the windows closed had eaten all of the oxygen in the room, and with it young Allee's life.

Judge Allee was hastily sent to Enoch's Hospital, where the Pleasant-McNeill lungmotor was used on him at intervals all day, and transfusion of blood was also resorted to. The splendid vitality of the veteran judge helped a trifle, but the work was done and at 5 p. m. he passed away. The physicians who attended him, after an examination, decided that the son had been dead several hours before he was discovered. The young man was to have been married to Miss Ruth Walters of 912 Dewey avenue in the near future.

Judge Allee had been a member of the St. Joseph police force for a number of years prior to being elected police judge. He had made one of the most competent officials who had ever filled that trying position.

## BELL CATERING CO. GOES INTO BANKRUPTCY

The Bell Catering Co., which has been in business here for a number of years, filed a petition in bankruptcy in federal court Monday, with liabilities of \$20,114.82 and assets of \$12,299.55. Among creditors who represent assets of \$200 not secured, are: W. W. Chase & Son, \$325.89; Crystal Ice Company, \$1,495.48; Heaton Transfer Company, \$1,210; Hund & Sger Bottling Company, \$327; J. M. Krumm, \$274.72; H. H. Libbe Company (flour), \$216.93; Letts-Parker Grocery Company, \$459; F. N. Schaub, \$423.74; the Ice Cream Company, \$4 10; Mrs. A. Schaefer of 2204 Ashland avenue, \$1,375; American National Bank, \$4,850; H. W. Bell, \$300; Gazette Publishing Company, \$403.64; Mr. and Mrs. George W. Bell, \$1,706.56; the Ambrosia Chocolate Cream Company, \$495.92.

## OWEN'S DEPUTIES WANT THEIR INCREASE

Homer King, Phil Blatter, F. P. Barnes and Miss Rose L. Harter, the office staff of Prosecuting Attorney Owen, want their increase in salary the same as the sheriff's deputies, and contend that they come under a separate act which is in the case of the sheriff's deputies, entitle them to the increase. As they are all democrats and the court is Republican, of course their request was refused.

## NARROW ESCAPE FROM DEATH

Mrs. E. J. Eaton of Harris, Mo., was operated upon last week in a hospital here, and died. The body was taken to her old home for burial. While on the way to Mrs. Eaton's funeral her sister Mrs. G. J. Oldwell of Harris was thrown from a high bridge in an automobile accident and very seriously injured.

## ROYAL SECURED FORTY CENTS

Charles Royal, a negro who entered and robbed the room of Ed Glace, a student, on Sunday night, secured forty cents but he received a thousand dollar scare when he turned after ramming a key into a lock, and found himself standing in front of a big gun held by Glace. He will be tried next term.

## JOHN S. BILBY IS KILLED IN OKLAHOMA

Struck by a Passenger Train While Near Catoosa Station

## WAS A FORMER WELL KNOWN QUITMAN MAN

In His Death One of the Most Remarkable Characters Among the Early Settlers of Northwest Missouri and Who Did as Much as the Rankins to Bring That Section Into Prominence Is Gone the Way of All Flesh

In a brief press dispatch of Thursday is given the news that "J. S. Bilby" of Catoosa, Oklahoma, was killed at that place that day by being struck by a passenger train. With the exception of a brief statement that he owned land in a number of states, that is all that is said in reference to a man who is as well known in St. Joseph and in Northwest Missouri as is the president of the United States.

Reference is had by the dispatch to John S. Bilby of Quitman, Nodaway county, who still held that county as his residence, although he had for the past dozen years lived in Oklahoma, making his temporary residence at Sapulpa, from which point he conducted his operations which were to secure land—and then more land. He was in that section what he was, and is, in Nodaway county, and what he was in Illinois before he transferred his operations to Missouri—the land king.

John S. Bilby had one object always in view, and that was to acquire land. He had no particular love for stock—although he handled great quantities of it—and no special fondness for agriculture—although he owned thousands upon thousands of acres of land—but the simple acquisition of land is what possessed him—and he secured it.

## Had Many Thousands

At the time of his death John S. Bilby owned so many thousand acres of land that he really did not know the exact number of acres himself. He was the owner of land in large amounts in fifteen states of the federal union, his principal holdings being, however, in Missouri, Illinois and Oklahoma. He came to Nodaway county in the early sixties and located near Quitman, where he soon owned about all of the land in that vicinity, he conducting a campaign of buying against Dave Rankin who had come to the Tarkio Valley west of him in Atchison county, and who was acquiring all the land that he could. The rivalry in land acquisition between Bilby and Rankin was so spirited that in the late seventies these two owned almost all of the west half of Nodaway and the east half of Atchison counties. Then when there was no more land to conquer up that way John S. became restless and looked for new worlds to conquer. When the Cherokee strip and Oklahoma were opened he left his Northwest Missouri possessions in charge of his sons, Nick, Ed and Rich L., and went to that section where he kept on acquiring that fertile country, until he was at the time of his death Tuesday one of the largest landholders in that state.

## A Unique Character

John S. Bilby was in every way a unique character. He was a man whom were one to meet him without previous knowledge, one would not take to be worth a dollar—and no one ever would find it out from Bilby, either, for he never talked of his possessions. He was a man of much quaint humor, and as interesting in his conversation as a Mark Twain. He was shrewd and active, but never sought the better of a man in a trade. He was 55 years of age at his death and as active both in mind and body as a youth of 21.

John S. never cared for dress—and his costume disclosed that—for he walked about dressed like an ordinary laborer—and perfectly at home that way. Until the time of the Bryan second race, he had always worn a full beard—and had never had on a dress suit in his life. When Bryan made his second campaign, Bilby was a most ardent worshipper at the Bryan shrine; and when the latter toured this state Bilby came to St. Joseph to secure him for a speech at Quitman. He was told that if he would agree to introduce Bryan, put

## THE SANDS OF MISSOURI

While Every Missourian Has a Vast Amount of That Article the State Also Has a Supply

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Nov. 28.—(Special Correspondence.)—The sand and gravel output of Missouri, the year 1918, totaled 1,743,416 tons and had a first wholesale worth of \$772,753, announces advanced information from the 1919 Red Book of the Missouri Bureau of Labor Statistics, given in publicity Thanksgiving day by Commissioner William H. Lewis.

A lighter demand for all varieties of sands, with the exception of molding and railroad sands, 1918 over 1917, due to war conditions, made the industry of less importance for Missouri and all other sand and gravel producing states. The 1917 production of sand and gravel, Missouri, totaled 2,274,972 tons, and the same had a total worth of \$1,101,742.

The quantities of Missouri sand produced by varieties and the value of each such output in 1918, prepared by Supervisor of Statistics A. T. Edmonston, was as follows: Glass sand, 141,062 tons, aggregate worth, \$202,769; molding sand, 116,471 tons, aggregate value, \$45,111; building sand, 546,956 tons, aggregate worth, \$213,321; engine sand, 32,793 tons, aggregate value, \$21,142; railroad ballast sand and gravel, 359,491 tons, aggregate worth, \$44,639; and miscellaneous sands, 107,419 tons, aggregate value, \$85,298. The 1918 output of Missouri gravel totaled 435,281 tons, the same having a total worth of \$138,562.

The following compilation covering the sand and gravel output, Missouri, 1917, is of value for comparative purposes to show where the decreases occurred and what they amounted to. The production of glass sand that year totaled 133,970 tons, the same having a total worth of \$162,921; of molding sand, 39,811 tons, worth \$58,898; building sand, 1,016,719 tons, aggregate value, \$449,546; engine sand, 21,176 tons, aggregate value, \$9,289; railroad ballast sand and gravel, 95,096 tons, aggregate value, \$28,095; and miscellaneous sands, 329,267 tons, aggregate value, \$109,450. The output of Missouri gravel, 1917, totaled 565,939 tons, the same having an aggregate worth of \$184,560.

During both 1918 and 1917 building sands used in Missouri were chiefly obtained from the Mississippi river in front of St. Louis, Cape Girardeau and Hannibal, and the Missouri river in front of Kansas City, St. Joseph, Booneville, St. Charles and Jefferson City. The sand used in the manufacture of glass came chiefly from Jefferson and Franklin counties. Missouri generally draws on the gravel pits of Jefferson, St. Louis, Franklin, St. Charles, Mason and Buchanan counties for its needed annual supply of gravel. Many other counties supply enough gravel and sand for home consumption.

## PROMINENT IN THE PARTY

Maurice J. Gordon High in St. Louis G. O. P. Circles Alleged Member of Crime Club

It is perhaps not out of the way to say in the language of a former well known politician of this city that "it is not hard to find a Republican misdeedman teller," yet it is out of the ordinary to find a man of any shade of politics who is at the head of a prominent member of a "crime club," but such a one has been found at St. Louis where Maurice J. Gordon, Republican politician and former assistant secretary of the old city council, has been arrested and released on bond for alleged connection with the wholesale operations in St. Louis of a "crime club." Gordon denies the accusations of the police. His brother, Nathan Gordon, a junk dealer, is accused by the police as being the ring-leader in the club. Nathan, arrested and released on bond, denies complicity in any crime.

According to the police, he admitted that men held as members of the club had used his motor car. Four city detectives revealed the existence of the "crime club." It was brought to light during an investigation of the attempted robbery of the H. H. Gerhardt jewelry store and subsequent shooting of Chief of Police O'Brien, when he attacked the robbers.

On a dress suit and shave his whiskers, he could have the Nebraska. Bilby agreed, and on the day of the speaking mounted the platform at Quitman, smooth shaven and in a dress suit, introduced Bryan to the thousands of his friends gathered there—made a better speech than did Bryan—and was not recognized by his vast number of friends in the audience.